

## Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

ACDE-00 /026 W

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P 121830Z FEB 75

FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2416

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0032

EXDIS/SALT

DEPT ALSO PASS DOD

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON PRIVATE MEETING SEMENOV-JOHNSON FEBRUARY 12  
(SALT TWO-516)

1. I HAVE JUST SPENT A TRYING TWO AND ONE- HALF HOURS IN  
PRIVATE MEETING WITH SEMENOV (WHICH HE REQUESTED) IN WHICH WE  
WENT ROUND AND ROUND THE MULBERRY BUSH ON THE VIRTUES OF DRAFTING  
AGREEMENT TEXT ON THOSE MATTERS ON WHICH WE AGREE VERSUS FIRST  
REACHING AN UNDERSTANDING ON WHAT WAS PRECISELY TO BE CONTAINED  
IN AGREEMENT. HE SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN ALMOST TWO WEEKS SINCE  
THEY TABLED THEIR DRAFT; THAT WE HAD AVOIDED ANY DISCUSSION OF IT;  
THAT WE HAD SET FORTH SOME VIEWS WHICH HAD THE EFFECT OF CONCENT-  
RATING ON THOSE MATTERS ON WHICH WE DISAGREED RATHER THAN ON THOSE  
MATTERS N WHICH WE AGREED, AND HERE WE WERE AFTER TWO WEEKS  
WITH NOTING CONCRETE TO SHOW FOR OUR LABOR-- OT EVEN THE TEXT OF  
A PREAMBLE. HE AID THAT THIS WAS RAISNINGQUESTIONS IN MOSCOW  
ON OUR WHOLE APPROACH AND IN A HAMHANDED REFERENCE TO  
FEBRUARY 4 PRAVDA ARTICLE WITH ITS REFERENCE TO CIRCLES IN THE  
US OPPOSED TO AGREEMENT AND DETENTE SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO GIVE  
IMPRESSION THAT FAILURE TO MAKE WHAT THEY WOULD CONSIDER PRO-  
GRESS HERE WAS FUELING OPPONENTS OF SALT AGREEMENT IN MOSCOW.

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2. SEMENOV SPECIFICALLY PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP WORKING FROM SOVIET TEXT TO DRAFT PREAMBLE AND " ARTICLES I, II, III AND IV," DESIGNATING KARPOV AND SMOLIN ON HIS SIDE. HE SAID THAT " AS THEIR WORK PROCEEDED" IF TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AROSE " EXPERTS COULD GET TOGETHER TO TRY TO WORK THEM OUT." I TRIED TO TURN THIS INTO AGREEMENT THAT WHATEVER NAME THEY MAY BE CALLED-- OR NO NAME--ROWNY AND GET TOGETHER ON PROBLEM OF DEFINING STRATEGIC WEAPONS TO BE INCLUDED IN AGGREGATE, AND MAY COULD GET TOGETHER WITH WHOMEVER HE DESIGNATED ON MIRV VERIFICATION ISSUES; BUT HE DID NOT BITE.

3. I STRESSED IMPORTANCDE OF OUR HAVING THEIR VIEWS ON QUESTIONS WHICH WE HAD RAISED AND OUR PROPOSED ANSWERS THERETO AS MOST EXPEDITIOUS WAY OF GETTING AHEAD, STATING THAT WITHOUT THESE MATTERS BEING RESOLVED OR AT LEAST KNOWING WHAT THE DIFFERENCES WERE, IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO GET AHEAD WITH ANY DRAFTING. I, OF CURSE, STRESSED THAT WE WERE NOT TRYING TO DELAY OR STALL, RATHER APPROACHING THE WHOLE MATTER IN A WAY THAT WE FELT COULD MOST QUICKLY ARRIVE AT BEST AGREEMENT. I TRIED TO PUT BALL BACK INTO HIS COURT BY STATING THAT I HOPED BY TUESDAY HE WOULD BE ABLE TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON THE PROPOSITIONS THAT WE HAD PUT FORWARD. JOHNSON

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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